

COMIC
BOOK
SECTION

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RECORD

PHILADELPHIA

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 1941

ACTION
Mystery
ADVENTURE

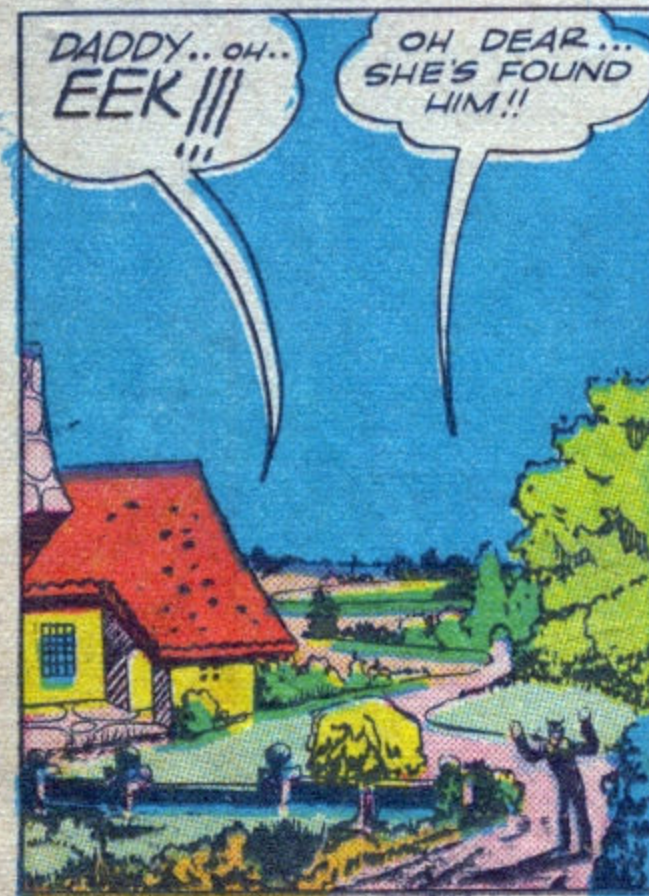
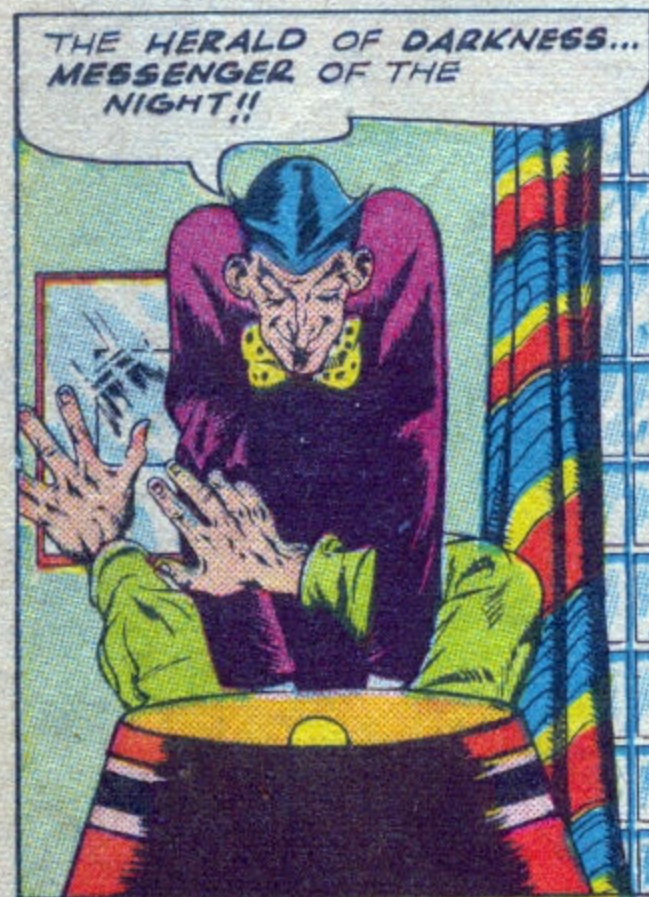


THE SUN GLOWS RED IN THE WEST,
THE DAY IS CONSUMED IN THE FUR-
NACE OF THE BLAZING SKY, PURPLE
SHADOWS GROW LONGER AND THERE
FOR A FLEETING MOMENT BEFORE
INVADING DARKNESS IS ...
DUSK THE SILENT
HERALD OF THE NIGHT!!!

BY *Will Eisner*



WEB COMIC
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WILDWOOD CEMETERY... LATER...
EBONY AND THE SPIRIT ARE
RETURNING HOME...

GOLLY, MIST' SPIRIT
BOSS, THAT SHO'
WUZ SOME
ADVENTURE!!
AHM TIRED!!

YOU
SOUND
AS THO'
CATCHING
KILLERS WAS
MERELY A
GAME TO YOU!



WELL, NOT 'XACTLY...
BUT ONE THING SHO' SEEM
FUNNY... THOUSANDS AN'
THOUSANDS O' PEOPLE
BEIN' KILLED IN EUROPE...
AN' NOTHIN' BEIN' DONE TO
STOP IT, BUT HERE IN
AMERICA EFN' ONE MAN IS
KILLED, THE PAPERS DONE
HAVE SCREAMIN' HEADLINES
ABOUT IT !!!



WHY, EBONY WHITE...
THERE ARE TIMES
WHEN YOU AMAZE
ME... YOU'RE A
PHILOSOPHER!

IS
THAT
GOOD
??



VERY GOOD...
WE MUST ALL CHOOSE
A PHILOSOPHY AT SOME
TIME AND LIVE BY IT...
THAT DISTINGUISHES
MAN FROM BEAST...



?? I DIDN'T
HEAR YOU
APPROACH US!

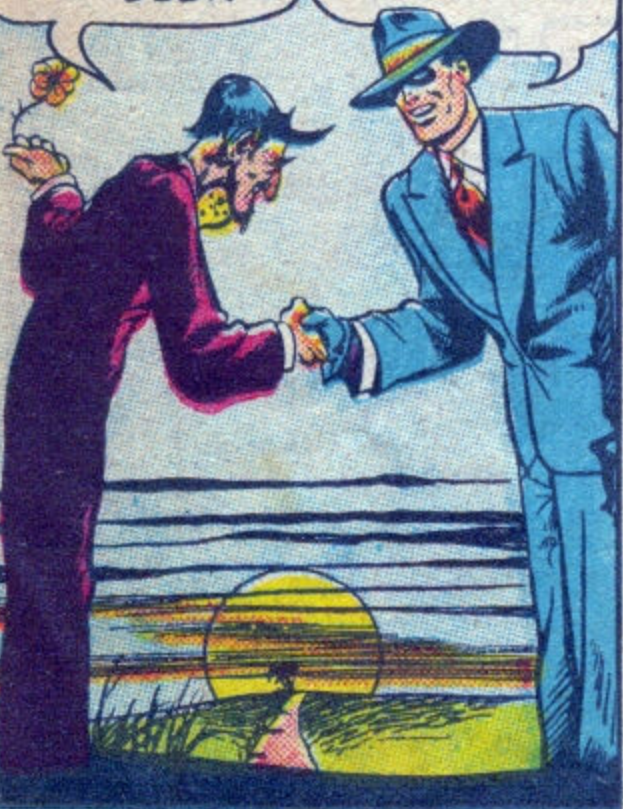


OH, I WALK VERY
SILENTLY, YOU
SEE, I DON'T
WANT TO DISTURB
THE BIRDS AND
FLOWERS...
SSSSNNNFFF...



PERMIT ME..AH...
I AM DUSK...

AND MEN CALL
ME THE SPIRIT!



AH YES.. I'VE
HEARD OF YOU,
A GREAT CRIME-
FIGHTER... WELL,
I'M ALSO INTER-
ESTED IN CRIME...



INDEED...?
YOU BEGIN
TO INTEREST
ME... WAIT
HERE, EBONY,
I'LL BE
RIGHT
BACK !!



WON'T YOU
VISIT MY
LABORATORY?!



WHY, YES...
LET'S
GO...

?? @!*

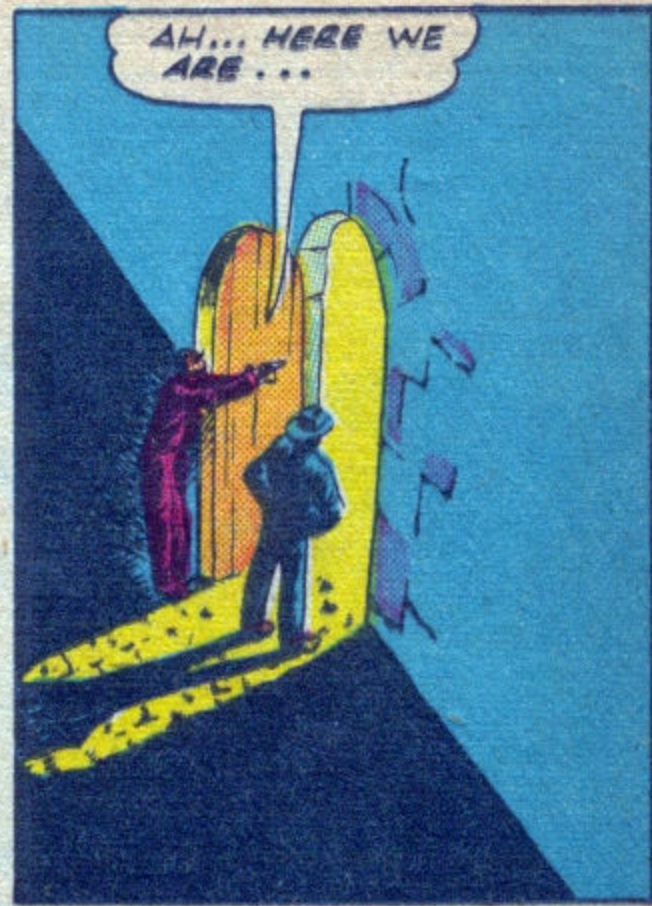
LATER, THEY REACH THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY... ON A DESERTED STREET, THEY PAUSE...



I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR THIS SORDID ENTRY... BUT I PREFER THE PRIVACY IT AFFORDS!!



AH... HERE WE ARE...



LOOK!! OUT!!



AH, I SEE MY BELOVED WIFE IS AT HOME!!



HEH..HEH..YOU SEE TWILIGHT... THAT'S HER NAME... SHE'S A SAVAGE... HATES ME FOR BRINGING HER INTO CIVILIZATION... DOES THIS EVERY DAY...



OH, YES.. BUT THE POOR CHILD HAS A DEFLECTION IN HER EYE... CAN'T JUDGE DISTANCE VERY WELL... I JUST LET HER THROW... IT MAKES HER HAPPY!!



NEVER HIT ME YET!!



AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
MEANWHILE...

I TELL YOU, COMMISSIONER DOLAN, THE STRANGLER OF DR. BOSPHOR MUST HAVE HAD HANDS OF STEEL!!

HMMM... AND THE LITTLE GIRL SAID A STRANGE BUT GENTLE MAN VISITED HER!!



YEH.. DUSK!! WHO EVER HEARD OF A NAME LIKE THAT??

BESIDES, A GUY SO GENTLE ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO DO SUCH A THOROUGH JOB OF CHOKING!

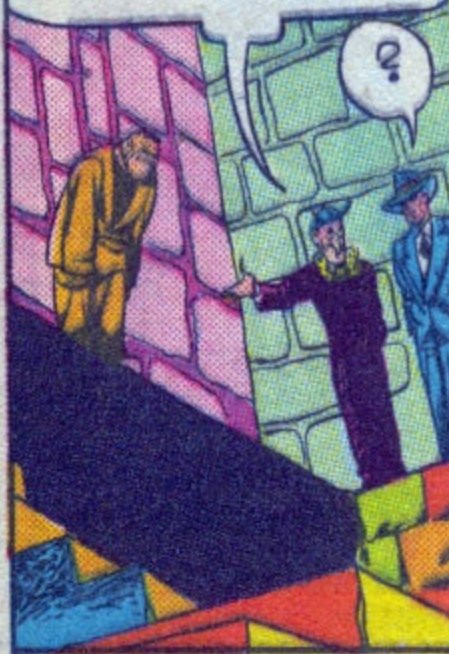


NO..LOOK FOR THE KILLER. A BIG BRUISER WAS WALKING.. I SAYS... LET'S FOLLOW THE MOST LIKELY ROUTE... EACH OF US WILL TAKE A SEPARATE TRAIL...



MEANWHILE

... AND THIS IS GOTHA MY NEW SERVANT... THE FOURTH THIS MONTH.. I KILLED THE OTHERS IN MY EXPERIMENTS... HORRIBLE, ISN'T IT??



AH, HERE IS A NEW SERUM... SO POWERFUL THAT A GALLON DUMPED INTO THE CITY WATER SUPPLY WOULD KILL THE ENTIRE POPULATION!!

INDEED?? MAY I LOOK?



HMMM... NOTICE THE VOLATILE MOLECULE...



OUM DE OUM



YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN... THERE'S NOTHING ON THAT SLIDE BUT IODINE...

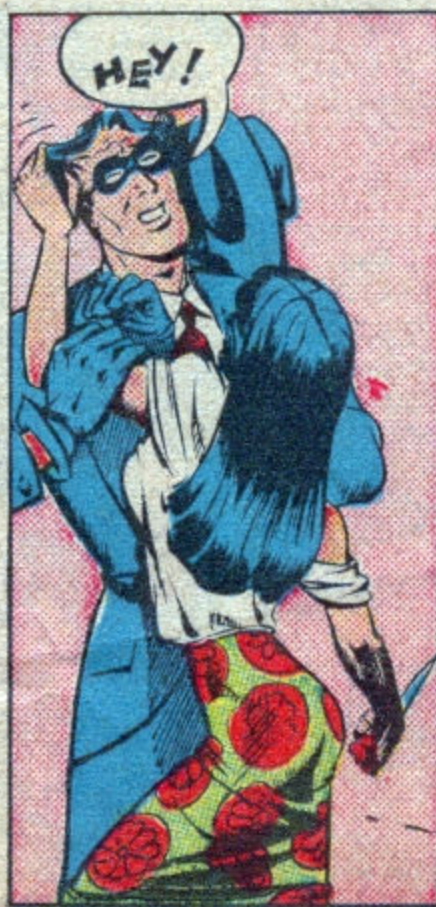
REALLY?... HEH... HEH... HOW SILLY OF ME...



KILL GOTHA! KILL!!

IN A WAY, SPIRIT, YOU AND I HAVE MUCH IN COMMON... OUR MUTUAL INTEREST IN CRIME... WE BOTH LIVE UNDERGROUND...





MEANWHILE



LOOK HERE NOW.. THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH !!



WHY DO WOMEN ALWAYS WANT TO BEAT ME UP ??



EXCELLENT.. SPIRIT, YOU ARE VERY DEFT WITH YOUR FISTS.. I BELIEVE I SHOULD BEAT MY WIFE MORE OFTEN !!

HEY! WHAT DID YOU DO TO GOTHA ??



WHO ?? ... OH HIM? I KILLED HIM...

GOOD GRAVY! I'LL GO NUTS TOO IF I STAY HERE ANY LONGER.. YOU'RE A HOMICIDAL MANIAC! YOU SHOULD BE IN A CELL !!



THEN.. YOU ARE MY ENEMY!! YOU DO NOT THINK MURDER IS A FINE ART LIKE I DO?

No!! I HOPE YOU'RE NOT DISILLUSIONED!!



THEN I MUST KILL YOU!! CRUSH YOUR THROAT WITH MY HANDS OF STEEL !!

WELL... IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT...

KILL! KILL!



YEEEEEEOW



HA..HA..WHAT A JOKE... TWILIGHT HAS BEEN AIMING TO KILL ME ALL ALONG... AND NOW, WHEN SHE AIMED AT YOU.. SHE GOT ME!! ...MUST HAVE HER EYES TESTED ONE OF THESE DAYS!!



THIS IS THE CRAZIEST...THE MOST NONSENSICAL ADVENTURE I'VE EVER HAD... C'MON, TWILIGHT... HE'S BADLY WOUNDED!!! ... GOT TO GET HIM OUT OF HERE!!

ER,
UR
ALL

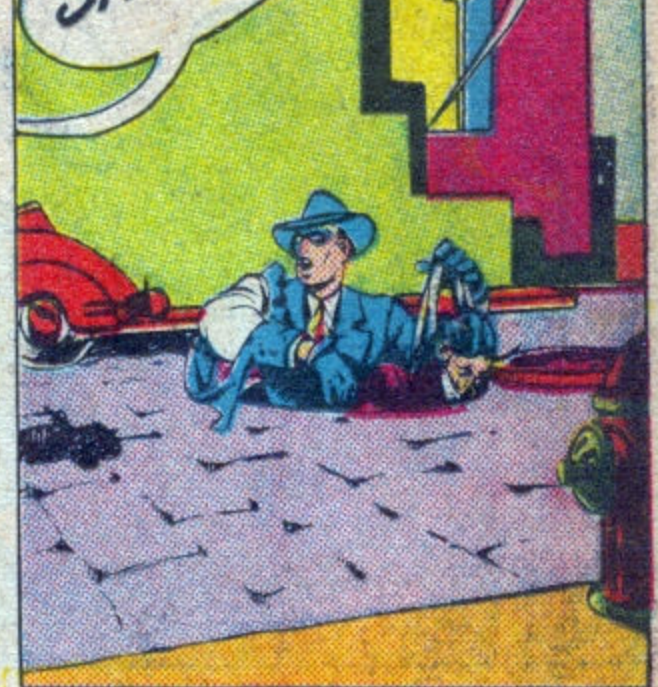
YES,
ACCORD-
ING TO
EBONY,
THEY
TOOK
THIS PATH!



OH, NEVER MIND...
GUESS WE'RE
LICKED... LET'S
GO BACK TO
HEADQUARTERS...



SPIRIT!!



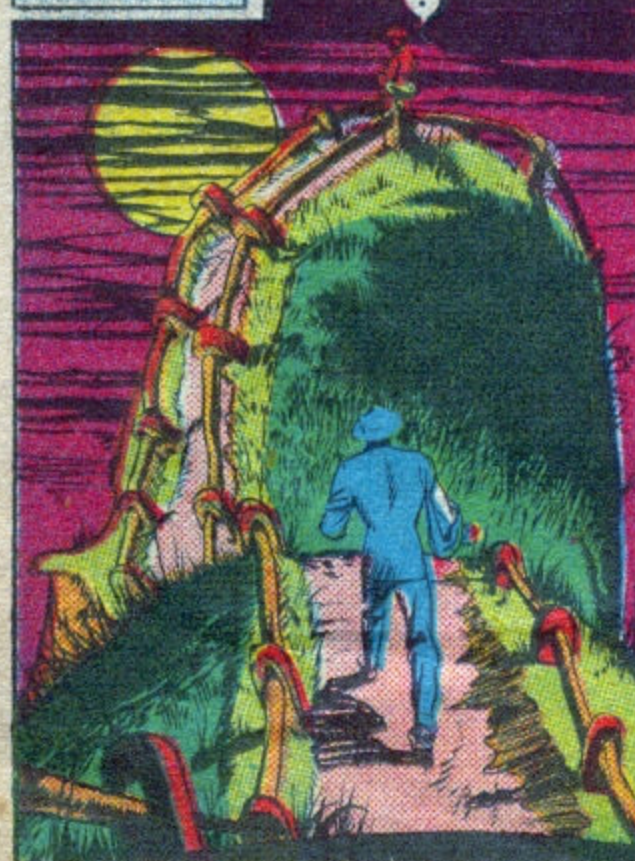
STORY, NOW, I'LL
TELL YOU
ONE ...
THIS "DUSK"
GUY KILLED
DR. BOSPHOR,
FAMOUS BRAIN
SURGEON...



OH NO, MY
DEAR
COMMISSIONER.
I'M STILL
AHEAD OF
YOU... YOU
SEE, I KNEW ALL
ALONG THAT I
WAS MAD... THE
CITY DOES NOT
TOLERATE MADMEN..
HA...HA..



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BUT...
EBONY...

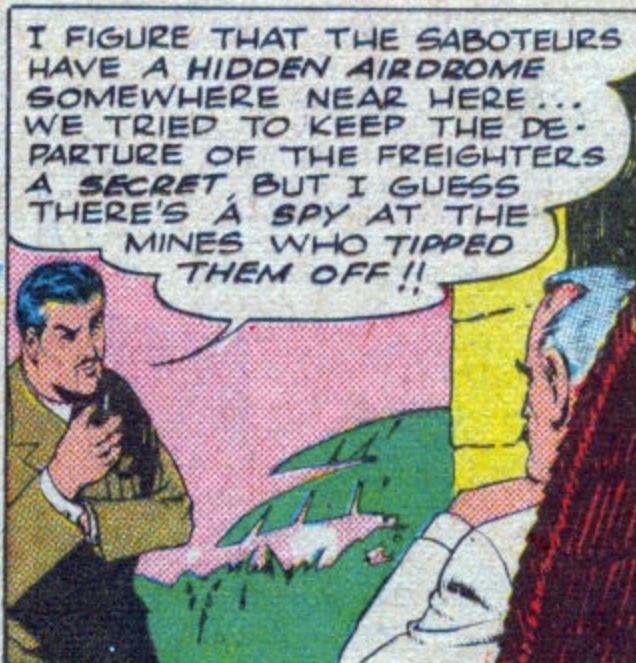
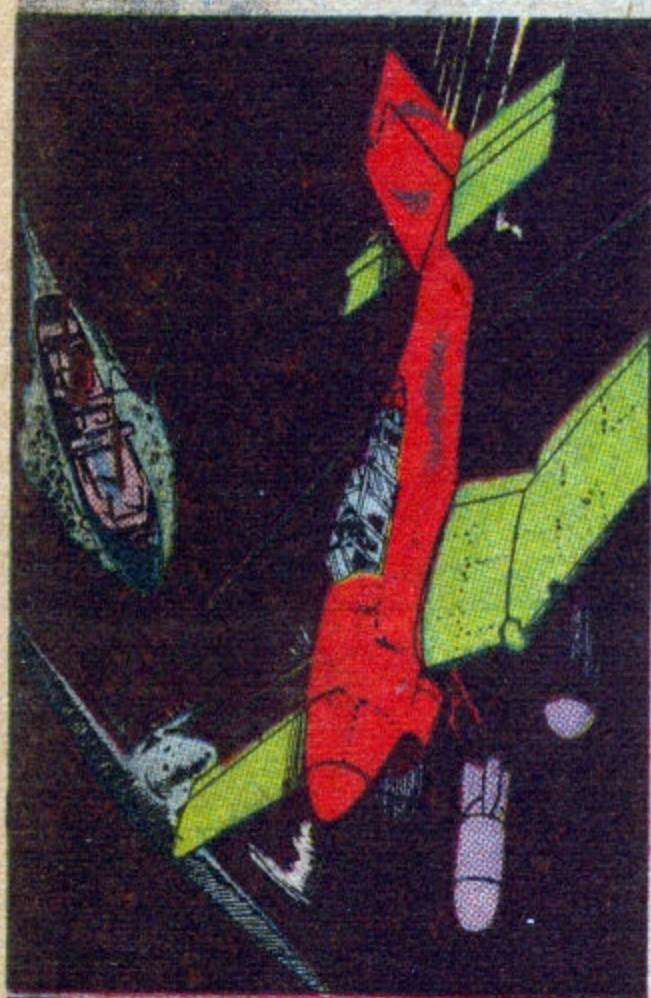


**YES,
EBONY!**



Lady Luck

Ford Davis



FEARING SABOTAGE TO HIS SOUTH AMERICAN MANGANESE MINES, F.J. BANKS JOURNEYS THERE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DAUGHTER, BRENDA, WHO, UNKNOWN TO ANYONE BUT PEECOLO, A MANSERVANT, IS IN REALITY, THE MYSTERIOUS LADY LUCK!

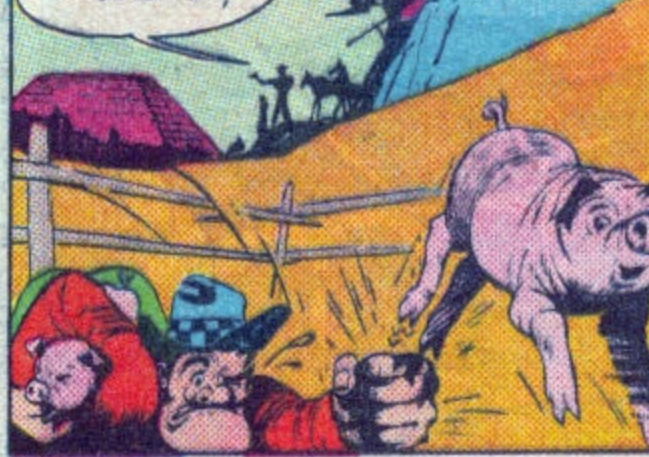


RIDING OUT TO HIS FATHER'S RANCH, PEECOLO PROUDLY EXPLAINS THE TERRAIN TO BRENDA.

HAR YOU LIKE, EH BRENDA? BY JINGO, EES WAN FINE PLACE!! SEE? AHTZA GENUINE INDIAN PYRAMID!



AN INCA TEMPLE RUIN!! I DIDN'T THINK THEY BUILT THEM THIS FAR SOUTH..



'EY!! WHATZA DIS??



'EY YOU LEETLE PEEG!! COME BACK!! DOG-GONE!! I'MA GET MAD!! 'EY, COME HERE I SAY...



CHASING THE FRIGHTENED HOG TO THE INCA RUINS, PEECOLO HAS TO DIVE DOWN ONE OF THE MAZE OF TUNNELS BURROWING THROUGH THE PYRAMID...



NOW, I'MA KETCH!!.. OWWWITCH!!!



I'MA PUZZLE.. I'MA BEND OVER AND TOUCHA DA WALL AND SOMEBODY STICK A PIN IN ME!!



WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE THESE WIRES DOING IN AN INCA RUIN!? COME ON, LET'S SEE WHERE THEY LEAD TO!!



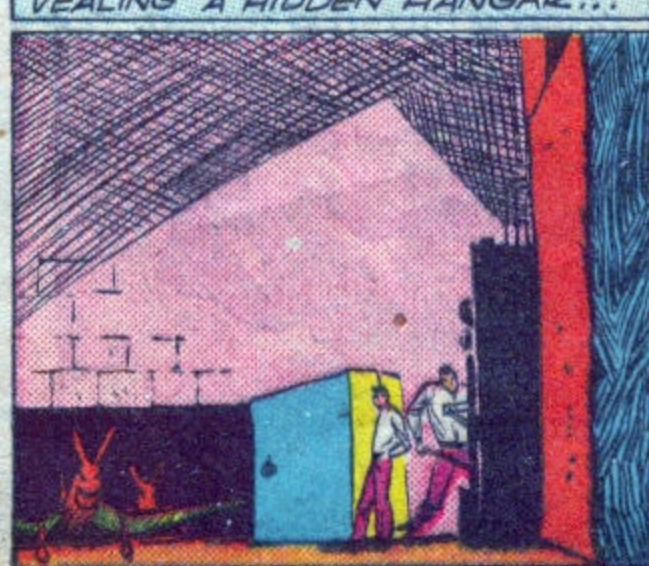
FOLLOWING THE THIN STRANDS OF COPPER, THEY WIND THROUGH THE MAZE OF PASSAGES TO COME OUT BEHIND A GARGANTUAN IDOL IN A HUGE ROOM...



IT EES A MESSAGE FROM LEON! WE HAVE ONLY A HALF HOUR TO BOMB THE BOAT AND RETURN BEFORE THE AMERICAN PLANES COME!! QUEEK! OPEN THE DOORS!!

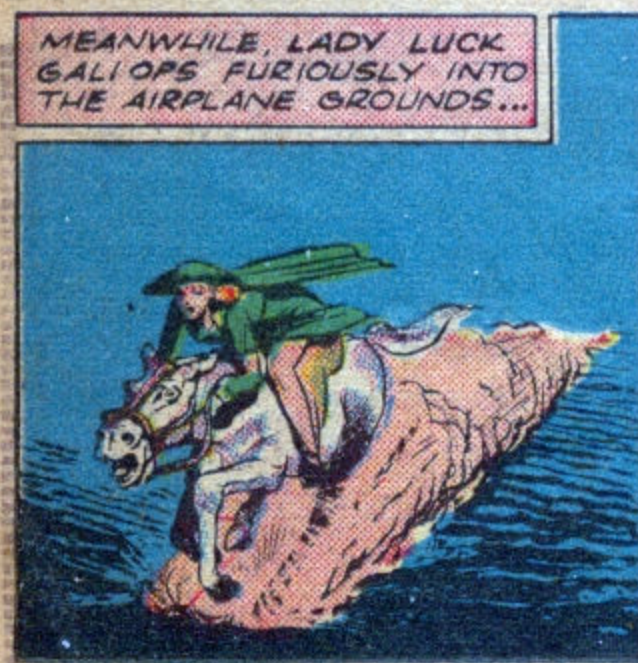
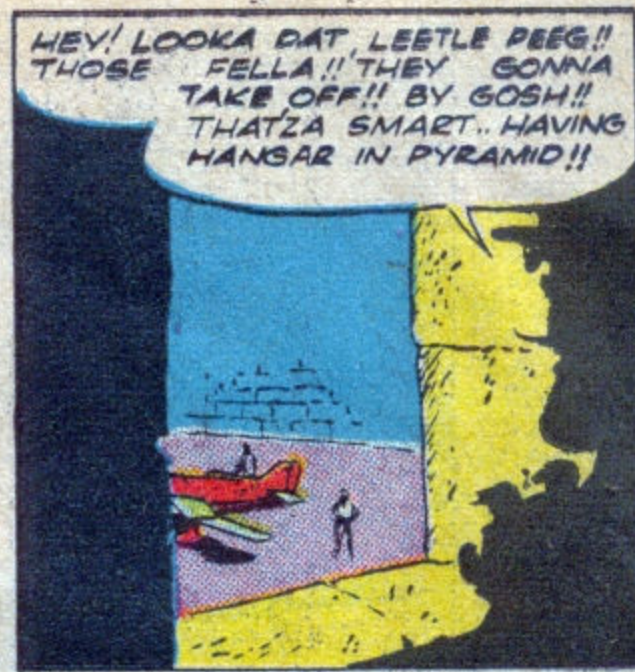


PULLING A LEVER, THE PEON OPENS A HUGE SET OF DOORS REVEALING A HIDDEN HANGAR...



SO.. THIS IS WHERE THE SABOTEURS HIDE OUT!! THOSE WIRES FURNISH THE ELECTRICITY TO OPEN THOSE DOORS!! PEECOLO, YOU STAY HERE!! I'M GOING TO PUT ON MY LADY LUCK COSTUME AND WARN THE ARMY MEN!!






RUSHING TO THE ARMY AIRDROME, LADY LUCK TELLS THE COLONEL OF THE SABOTEURS PLOT TO BOMB THE FREIGHTERS. QUICKLY THEY RUSH TO THE PLANES...

ALL SET?? I'LL LEAD YOU TO THEM, COLONEL!

RIGHT! CARRY ON!



AS EXPERT AS AN ARMY FLIER, LADY LUCK LEADS THE SQUADRON INTO THE AIR AND AWAY TOWARDS THE AMAZON...



MEANWHILE, FAR DOWN THE RIVER, THE ENEMY PLANES SPOT THE PLODDING FREIGHTER LOADED WITH MANGANESE...



RAISING HIS ARM, THE LEADER SIGNALS THE DIVE BOMBER TO RELEASE THE DEADLY CARGO, WHEN LADY LUCK ROARS INTO SIGHT...



PLUNGING HER PLANE INTO A FURIOUS DIVE, SHE INTERCEPTS THE ENEMY.. PUMPING ROUND AFTER ROUND INTO ITS SLEEK HULL...



OUT OF CONTROL THE BOMBER CRASHES INTO THE WATER AND EXPLODES...



AT THE SAME MOMENT, THE ARMY PLANES SWOOP DOWN ON THE ESCORTS...



TWISTING AND TURNING, THE SHIPS MEET IN A DOG FIGHT THAT ENDS ONLY WHEN THE ENEMY PLANES PLOW INTO THE RIVER...



LEAVING THE SPIES TO BE PICKED UP BY THE FREIGHTER, LADY LUCK AND THE ARMY MEN HEAD BACK FOR THE AIRPORT...



LANDING QUICKLY, SHE JUMPS OUT OF HER PLANE...

I'VE GOT TO GET TO PEECOLO!!



LADY LUCK!! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?!

QUICK! GET SOME MORE MEN AND FOLLOW ME. WE'VE GOT TO CAPTURE THE OTHERS!!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HELLO, LADY LUCK!! LOOKA DIS BAD PEEG! HE EATA MY APPLE!!

PEECOLO!! HERE'S THE REST OF YOUR ENEMY AGENTS, COLONEL!!

WELL, I'LL BE...!! IS THERE ANYTHING YOU TWO CAN'T DO?!



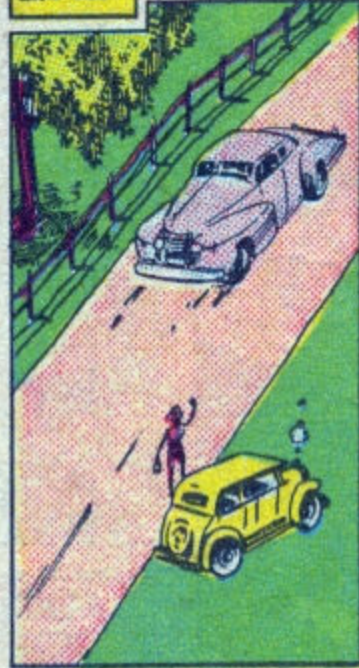




SINKING INTO A HALF-CONSCIOUS STUPOR, CHIKKI CRUZ FEELS HIMSELF LIFTED AND CARRIED OFF.... TIME AND DIRECTION BECOME MEANINGLESS



MEANWHILE, NOT FAR FROM THE CIRCUS, MR. MYSTIC RIDES PLACIDLY ALONG A COUNTRY ROAD, WHEN HE IS HAILED BY A STRANGER...



MEANWHILE, IN THE ANIMAL COURT...

WHAT IS THE CHARGE AGAINST HIM, M'BOMBO?

HE POISONED ME!! HE KILLED ME IN COLD BLOOD!!

THAT'S NOT TRUE!! I... I ONLY WANTED TO MAKE YOU A LITTLE SICK FOR TEARING OFF MY HAND!!

BY GIVING ME NITRIC ACID!! BAH! YOU'VE ALWAYS LIKED TO KILL ANIMALS! I CAN PROVE IT!!

YES! WE CAN PROVE IT TOO! DIDN'T YOU SHOOT US WHILE YOU WERE HUNTING ONE DAY?

..AND ME! YOU SHOT ME LAST WINTER IN THE WOODS!!!

..AND ME! I NEVER HAD A CHANCE!

..AND DIDN'T YOU HAVE ME SHOT BECAUSE I WAS NASTY WHEN YOU PUT ME IN A CAGE?!

B..BUT I CAN EXPLAIN... I SHOT THE RABBITS AND DEER FOR FOOD... I KILLED THE BEAR BECAUSE HE KILLED MY FRIEND!! WON'T ANYONE BELIEVE ME? HAVEN'T I ONE FRIEND AMONG YOU?

YES! I AM YOUR FRIEND! I AM MAN'S BEST FRIEND! ALL OF YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED!! LOOK AT THE GOOD HE HAS DONE FOR YOU DOMESTIC ANIMALS!!

GOOD? NONSENSE!! ... BECAUSE HE'S FED AND SHELTERED US? HE EITHER SLAUGHTERED US OR MADE US WORK UNTIL WE WERE BENT AND BROKEN!! HE IS NO FRIEND!!

I HAVE HEARD ENOUGH!! I FIND HIM GUILTY!! ARE YOU IN ACCORD, MY FRIENDS?

AYE! DEATH!!

AYE! KILL HIM!!

YES!!

YOUR PUNISHMENT IS DEATH!! M'BOMBO, I LEAVE IT TO YOU TO CARRY OUT THE SENTENCE!

GROWLING FIERCELY, THE HUGE APE LUMBERS FORWARD, HIS MASSIVE ARMS OUTSTRETCHED AND HIS FANGS BARED...

HORROR-STRICKEN CRUZ SINKS TO HIS KNEES, AS THE GHOST OF THE GORILLA HE POISONED LUMBERS OMINOUSLY FORWARD, TO CARRY OUT THE SENTENCE OF DEATH IMPOSED UPON HIM BY THE ANIMAL KINGDOM...



STOP!! WHY ARE YOU KILLING THIS MAN!?



BECAUSE WE FIND HIM GUILTY OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS! IN A FAIR TRIAL HE HAS BEEN CONDEMNED TO DIE!! STAND ASIDE!!



WAIT!! THE VERDICT IS UNJUST! EVER SINCE M'BOMBO THE GORILLA TORE OFF HIS HAND HE HAS BEEN INSANE!! HE IS NOT TO BLAME!! NO MAN WAS EVER MORE KIND TO ANIMALS THAN HE, BEFORE HIS ACCIDENT!!



I WON'T LET YOU TAKE HIS LIFE... STAND BACK OR I'LL HURT YOU ALL! STAND BACK!!

DISREGARDING HIM, THE BEASTS SURGE FORWARD...IN A FLASH MYSTIC GROWS TO AN ENORMOUS HEIGHT..



SNATCHING UP HANDFULS OF THE TERRIFIED BEASTS, HE FLINGS THEM TO THE FOUR WINDS..



I GAVE YOU FAIR WARNING, KING LEO!! YOU HAD NO RIGHT TO BRING CRUZ HERB OR TO JUDGE HIM!! DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN!!

PERHAPS WE WERE TOO HASTY.. BUT WE ARE OFTEN BADLY TREATED... TRY TO MAKE HUMANS MORE KIND TO US!



THAT I WILL PROMISE YOU...GO IN PEACE!! O.K. CRUZ, COME ALONG, I'LL TAKE YOU BACK TO EARTH AND REMEMBER... NOT A WORD OF THIS TO ANYONE!!



YES SIR!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HE'S OPENING HIS EYES! PSHAW!! GUESS IT WEREN'T NOTHIN' BUT A FAINTIN' SPELL!

UH... ROSA... ROSA!!



W..WHY...IT'S SUMMER!! I..I GOT HURT IN FALL!! WHERE'VE I BEEN!?? W..WHAT'S HAPPENED?? A..ARE THE ANIMALS ALL RIGHT??



THERE! THERE! CHIKKI, YOU MUST REST! YOU'VE BEEN OUT OF YOUR HEAD FOR A LONG TIME, BUT NOW EVERYTHING EES ALL RIGHT!! EVERYTHING!!

